

# Education Award 101

Utah AmeriCorps Member Gathering 2023



# Agenda

- Benefits and limitations of the Education Award
- Eligible uses of the Education Award
- Breaking down your tax burden
- Extensions
- Payment request
- Kahoot!



# Benefits

## **During Service:**

National Service Forbearance



## **After completed service:**

Interest Accrual Payment (depending term type)

Education Award based on term type



# 10/1/2021 - 9/30/2022

Segal AmeriCorps Education Award amounts for national service positions approved in Fiscal Year 2022 (October 1, 2021-September 30, 2022)

Participation types	Minimum # of hours	Amounts
Full-time (FT)	1,700 (365 days for AmeriCorps VISTA)	\$6,495.00
Three-quarters-time (TQT)	1,200	\$4,546.50
Half-time (HT)	900	\$3,247.50
Reduced half-time (RHT)	675	\$2,474.27
Quarter-time (QT)	450	\$1,718.25
Minimal-time and Summer Associate (MT and SA)	300	\$1,374.60
Abbreviated Time (AT)	100	\$365.52

# 10/1/2022 - 9/30/2023

Segal AmeriCorps Education Award amounts for national service positions approved in Fiscal Year 2023 (October 1, 2022-September 30, 2023)

Participation types	Minimum # of hours	Amounts
Full-time (FT)	1,700 (365 days for AmeriCorps VISTA)	\$6,895.00
Three-quarters-time (TQT)	1,200	\$4,826.50
Half-time (HT)	900	\$3,447.50
Reduced half-time (RHT)	675	\$2,626.27
Quarter-time (QT)	450	\$1,824.07
Minimal-time and Summer Associate (MT and SA)	300	\$1,459.26
Abbreviated Time (AT)	100	\$388.03

# Limitations

- Available for **7** calendar years from the last day in service
- VISTA: Not transferable to dependents (State/National: Must be at least 55 years old at the start of service and the award must go to your child, stepchild, grandchild, step-grandchild, or foster child.)
- Lifetime limit of **2 full-time** Education Awards
- Counted as taxable income



# Using the Education Award for Future Educational Expenses

- You can use your education award to pay:
  - ***current*** educational expenses at ***eligible schools*** and
  - at certain *GI Bill*-approved educational programs for veterans



# Eligible Schools

- **Higher** educational institutions, both **domestic** and **foreign**, that currently participate in the Department of Education's **Title IV** student aid programs.
- Includes **most post-secondary colleges, universities, and technical schools**
- Schools that accept the FAFSA are Title IV schools

[Title IV School List](#)



# Eligible Expenses

- **Title IV courses:** The Cost of Attendance (COA) as determined by the institution for a degree or certificate program at a Title IV school.
  - May include tuition, books and supplies, transportation, room and board, and other expenses.
- **Non-Title IV educational courses offered by a Title IV institution:** tuition and fees normally assessed a student for a course or program of study by the institution, including costs for rental or purchase of any books or supplies.





# Alternative Ways to Use the Education Award

- National Outdoor Leadership School (NOLS)
- Outward Bound
- Trade Schools
- Non-Profit Management Certificates
- Yoga Teacher Certification
- Global Service Corps
- Overseas Schools
- Enrichment Classes



[Conservation Legacy webpage](#)

# Ed Award for schooling tips

- Talk to the Financial Aid Counselor for any non-tuition expenses
- Ed Award is sent in two equal installments - let the Financial Aid Office know that
- Research tuition deadlines for your school - payments may take 4-5 weeks to process



# Schools of National Service

## Benefits for AmeriCorps alums

- Tuition matching for the Segal AmeriCorps Education Award (could be at the undergraduate or graduate level and could be specific to a school or program)
- Scholarship or fellowship to AmeriCorps alumni
- Priority points for admission consideration for AmeriCorps alumni
- Academic credit for AmeriCorps experience
- Other incentives that vary by institution



[Schools of National Service Search | AmeriCorps](#)

*The following states offer in-state tuition to AmeriCorps alumni:*

*Arizona, Maryland, Nebraska, and West Virginia*

# Paying back Qualified Student Loans



- Loans **backed by the federal government under Title IV of the Higher Education Act** (except PLUS Loans to parents of students)
  - Examples include: Stafford Loans, Perkins Loans, Wm. D. Ford Federal Direct Loans, Federal Consolidated Loans, Supplement Loans to Students, & Guaranteed Student Loans.
- Loans under Titles VII or VIII of the Public Service Health Act
  - Examples include: HEAL, HPSL, Nursing Student Loans, Primary Care Loans, & Loans for Disadvantaged Students
- Loans made by a state agency, including state institutions of higher education

*The Education Award cannot repay any other type of loan, even if the loan was obtained for educational purposes at eligible schools or programs*

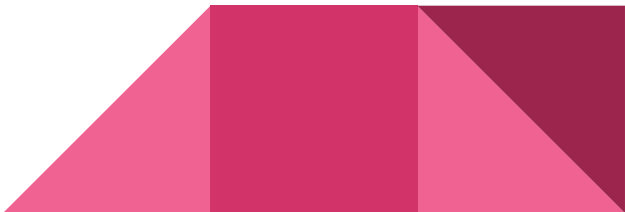
# Student Loans Example

- Calvin served two full-time terms of AmeriCorps immediately after college
- \$34,000 in student debt between FedLoan and ACS
- Earned about \$12,000 in Education Awards
- Earned about \$2,900 in Interest Payments

## **During Service:**

- Put Both Loans Into Forbearance Both Years

## **Right After:**

- Made interest payments at end of both terms
  - Used Ed Award to pay off one of two loans
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# Ed Award for Loans Tips

- Contact your loan service provider when sending a payment
- Do you want to pay down the principal on your loan or pay ahead?  
Find out what is possible.
- Payment comes in one payment for loans



# Tax Liability

The Education Award is subject to income tax:

- For the **amount that was used**, in the **year it is used**
- Report any amount used as income
- Using \$600 or more generates a 1099-MISC form - will post in the My AmeriCorps Portal by January 31 of the year after you used it
- If you use less than \$600, you still need to report it as taxable income but there will not be a 1099-MISC form



# Tax Liability Is Dependent on:

- + 1. Your Annual Income During the Year of Use
- + 2. Education Award Amount Used
- 3. Your Eligible Personal Tax Credits/Deductions

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= Taxable Income

**Consider - will using this much education award put me in a different tax bracket?**

Taxed @

- Federal Tax Rate
- State Tax Rate




# Important Education Award Questions to Ask

- When do you want to use the education award?
- How much do you want to use in a given year?



**Call the National Service Hotline with questions/account issues:  
1-800-942-2677**

# Extensions Criteria

- You **served another term** of national service during the previous award's use period, or
  - You were **unavoidably prevented** from using the award during the original use period. Qualifying examples include:
    - Member's serious illness, injury or disability
    - Death, injury or disability of member's immediate family member
    - Destruction or inaccessibility of member's records
    - Natural or other disaster
    - Administrative consideration
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# Extension information

## Extension Time Frame

- If you are unavoidably prevented from using the award, the extension is generally granted for one year.
- If you completed a subsequent AmeriCorps term, the extension is equivalent to the length of your subsequent service term.

## Notice of Award Expiration

An email notice is sent to you 6-12 months prior to the award expiration, if a balance remains in the account. Letter notices are mailed to those who are not registered on MyAmeriCorps. To manually check the expiration date, log on to [MyAmeriCorps](#) and click My Education Award.

## Request an Extension

Submit requests via [MyAmeriCorps](#)





AmeriCorps Service Date: 08/24/2009  
Available Balance: \$322.29  
\* Payment Type:  ?  
\* Amount Authorized:  ?

**Institution Information (Search for Institutions) ?**

Please select an institution to send this request to by clicking the "Search Institutions" link above.

**Certify and Submit ?**

- Payment usually within 48 hours
- Payment cannot be automated

See short YouTube videos on [Accessing Ed Award](#)